

ABSTRACTGLYCOPROTEINS HAVING LIPID MOBILISING PROPERTIES AND  
THERAPEUTIC APPLICATIONS THEREOF

5 A biologically active lipid mobilising agent for use in therapy is  
disclosed which has the properties and characteristics of a Zn- $\alpha_2$ -glycoprotein,  
or of a fragment thereof having an apparent molecular mass  $M_r$  greater than 6.0  
kDa as determined by gel exclusion chromatography. Methods of isolation and  
purification from biological material are also disclosed together with uses of the  
material for making up pharmaceutical compositions, especially pharmaceutical  
10 compositions useful for treating mammals to achieve weight reduction or for  
controlling obesity. In addition, uses of the material for developing diagnostic  
agents and for identifying inhibitors of lipolytic activity for therapeutic  
purposes are disclosed.